

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An elevator car assembly (14) comprising:
a frame (28); and
a platform (34) adjustably supported upon said frame (28), said platform (34) being selectively adjustable relative to said frame for balancing said assembly (14).
2. (Currently Amended) The elevator car assembly (14) as recited in claim 1, wherein said frame (28) includes a plank beam (36) that is attached to an upright (38) secured near each end of said plank beam (36) and comprising at least one brace (44) mounted between said platform (34) and said upright (38), said brace (44) stabilizing said platform (34) in a selected position relative to said plank beam (36).
3. (Currently Amended) The elevator car assembly (14) as recited in claim 2, wherein said brace (44) includes a slot (56) and a corresponding one of said uprights (38) supports a member (58) that is received in said slot (56), said member (58) is operative to secure said brace in a selected position relative to said upright (38).
4. (Currently Amended) The elevator car assembly (14) as recited in claim 2, wherein said brace (44) comprises a steel sheet.
5. (Currently Amended) The elevator car assembly (14) as recited in claim 2, comprising a plurality of braces (44) mounted in a substantially V-shaped orientation between said platform (34) and said upright (38).
6. (Currently Amended) The elevator car assembly (14) as recited in claim 5, wherein said braces (44) are secured to said upright by a single fastener (58).

7. (Currently Amended) The elevator car assembly (14) as recited in claim 5, wherein each of said braces (44) includes said slot (56') and said member comprises a fastener (58) at least partially received through said slots (56') to secure said braces (44) to said upright (38).

8. (Currently Amended) The elevator car assembly (14) as recited in claim 2, wherein said brace (44) includes a slot (56) near an end of said brace (44) that cooperates with said platform (34) such that said end is adjustable relative to said platform (34) to alter a position of said platform (34) relative to said plank beam (36).

9. (Currently Amended) The elevator car assembly (14) as recited in claim 8, wherein said brace (44) includes a second slot (56') near an opposite end of said brace (44) that cooperates with said upright (38) such that said opposite end is adjustable relative to said upright (38) to alter a position of said platform (34).

10. (Currently Amended) The assembly (14) of claim 1, wherein the platform (34) is adjustable relative to the frame (28) in at least a first direction (A) within a plane of said platform and in a second direction (B) that is not parallel to said plane.

11. (Currently Amended) The assembly (14) of claim 1, including a plurality of fixed length braces (44) securing said platform (34) in a selected position relative to said frame (28).

12. (Currently Amended) An elevator car frame assembly (14) comprising:
a first upright (38);
a second upright (38);
a horizontal member (36) secured between said first upright (38) and said second upright (38);
a platform (34) at least partially adjustably supported upon said horizontal member; and
at least one brace (44) adjustably securing said platform (34) into a selected position relative to at least said first upright (38) for balancing said assembly (14).

13. (Currently Amended) The elevator car frame assembly as recited in claim 12, wherein said brace (44) comprises a slot (56, 56') and including a fastener (60, 58) that is at least partially received through said slot (56, 56') to secure said brace (44) to one of said platform (34) or said first upright (38), said slot having a dimension that is larger than a dimension of said fastener to permit said brace to be longitudinally moveable relative to said fastener into a selected position.

14. (Currently Amended) The elevator car frame assembly (14) as recited in claim 13, wherein said brace (44) comprises a second slot (56', 56) and including a second fastener (58, 60) that is at least partially received through said second slot (56', 56) to secure said brace (44) to the other of said platform (34) or said first upright (38), said slot having a dimension that is larger than a dimension of said fastener to permit said brace to be longitudinally moveable relative to said fastener into a selected position.

15. (Currently Amended) The elevator car frame assembly (14) as recited in claim 12, comprising a plurality of fixed-length braces (44) adjustably mounted to said platform (34) and said uprights (38).

16. (Currently Amended) The elevator car frame assembly (14) as recited in claim 12, wherein said platform (34) has a plurality of layers (34a, 34b) separated by a plurality of isolation pads (59), said isolation pads (59) having an equal weight distribution thereon.

17. (Currently Amended) A method of assembling a portion of an elevator car assembly (14) comprising the steps of:

- (1) placing a platform (34) upon a plank beam (36); and
- (2) adjusting a position of the platform (34) relative to the plank beam (36) to selectively distribute the platform weight relative to the plank beam (36) to thereby balance the car assembly (14).

18. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 17, including adjusting a position of at least one brace extending between the platform (34) and an upright (38) secured to the plank beam (36).

19. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 17, comprising securing a cab (32) to the platform (34) and subsequently adjusting the position of the platform (34) with respect to the plank beam (36).

20. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 17, including supporting the car assembly (14) in a hoistway (18) and subsequently adjusting a position of the platform (34) relative to the plank beam (36) to thereby level the assembly (14) within the hoistway (18).